



December 2013

The Bay Leaf

California Native Plant Society • East Bay Chapter
Alameda & Contra Costa Counties

www.ebcnps.org

www.groups.google.com/group/ebcnps

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our membership meetings take place on the fourth Wednesday evening of the month in January-May and September-November (November meetings are usually on the third Wednesday to avoid Thanksgiving week). Everyone is welcome, and the meetings are free. Watch the online *Bay Leaf* for announcements of future meetings.

December 2013: No meeting (happy holidays!)

Wednesday, January 22, 2014, 7:30 pm

Members' Slide Show

Location: Garden Room, Orinda Public Library

Let's start a new tradition with the new year: a slide show of **your** photos! Everyone is invited to bring photos of trips and adventures, gardens, or plant art. Come to share your images or just enjoy those that others bring (nonmembers are welcome to present and/or enjoy) along with yummy refreshments.

Guidelines

- Contact Sue Rosenthal at sr0433@yahoo.com or 510-496-6016 by January 15 if you'll be bringing images.
- Bring up to 10 minutes worth of images you think would appeal to CNPS members – interesting plants, gardens, landscapes, hikes, trips, work parties, etc.
- Bring digital images on a thumb drive, CD, or DVD. We'll provide a digital projector and a PC laptop as well as an old-fashioned slide projector. You may also bring your own laptop to connect to the projector; if it's a Mac, please bring an adaptor if you have one.
- Prints are also welcome: We'll have a table on which you can display them.

Wednesday, February 26, 2014, 7:30 pm

Pete Veilleux: Native plant hedgerows for pollinators and wildlife

(Rescheduled from October 2013)

ELECTIONS FOR THE CHAPTER BOARD

The East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society has five elected officers: President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer. These five officers will appoint committee chairs who will then become board members. If you received a printed *Bay Leaf*, you will find your ballot enclosed. If you have opted to receive the *Bay Leaf* online even when there is a printed version, you will receive a ballot in the mail (in a regular legal envelope). There is no online ballot or online voting. Even though each position has only one candidate, please do vote as doing so indicates your support of the organization. There is space on the ballot for comments, which are very welcome. Here are brief biographies of the candidates.

Nominees for Officers of the East Bay Chapter California Native Plant Society

President – Lesley Hunt

Lesley has served as President for one term and is running for a second term. She writes:

My involvement with CNPS began when Bill and I volunteered for Charli Danielsen's grasslands project in Mitchell Canyon in the early 90's. I went on to various environmental activities – everything from habitat restoration to politics – with the Walnut Creek Open Space Foundation and Friends of the Creeks in Walnut Creek where I live. In 2005 I began volunteering at Native Here to learn more about the plants I wanted to restore. I have attended state Chapter Council meetings with Bill for three years. I joined the East Bay Chapter Board of Directors a couple of years ago, representing Native Here.

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While I have not done conservation work in CNPS—we are fortunate to have plenty of experts—I have done it elsewhere, mainly in the form of fighting bad development and lobbying for various restoration plans. I helped to lead a successful land acquisition campaign for Acalanes Ridge using political skills, coalition building, and fundraising. I served two terms as a planning commissioner for the City of Walnut Creek, thereby gaining a perspective which I believe is unique in the current Board.

I have led several restoration projects over the last 20 years and I am never happier than when I'm planting natives on Tuesday mornings.



Bill Hunt

Sue Duckles—Recording Secretary

Sue Duckles, a biomedical scientist, grew up in Oakland, close to Redwood Park, where she developed a life-long love of wild places. She recently retired from a career in research and teaching as a medical school professor, most recently at University of California, Irvine. Sue spends her time as a weed warrior in Joaquin Miller Park and East Bay Regional Parks, and maintains a large native plant garden reclaimed from an ivy-covered hillside in Oakland above Butters Canyon. Her garden has been on the Bringing Back the Natives Garden Tour five times since 2006. Over the years she has benefitted from resources provided by EBCNPS, most notably Native Here Nursery and restoration projects, and is looking forward to participating fully in Chapter activities.



Lesley Hunt

Vice-President—Bill Hunt

I grew up on a farm, got an education in chemistry and earned a living writing computer software.

I have always been interested in nature—places, plants and animals. Lesley and I belong to CNPS, the Nature Conservancy, Save Mount Diablo and other conservation organizations. I am a regular visitor to many of the units of the East Bay Regional Park system. Lesley and I have taken spring wildflower trips to southern and central California in recent years. I record what I see as a casual photographer. My websbsite <http://naturelover.smugmug.com/> contains a small amount of that record.

Since 1991 I have volunteered in and led habitat restoration projects with the Walnut Creek Open Space Foundation (WCOSF) and have been on its board for 12 years. I created the WCOSF website <http://www.wcosf.org> in 2003 and maintained it until recently. I served on the Walnut Creek Park, Recreation and Open Space Commission, the Steering Committee for the city's General Plan and the Community Blue Ribbon Task Force on Fiscal Health.

I have served as Vice President of the East Bay Chapter of CNPS and delegate to the Chapter Council for 4 years. I have served on the Logistics Committee, Planning and Evaluation (Strategic Plan) and Brand Development (Logo) Committees at the state level of CNPS.



Sue Duckles

Treasurer—David Margolies

I was born in Washington DC and moved to California in 1970 to attend graduate school at UC Berkeley, where I was awarded a PhD in Mathematics in 1977. After working at a government lab for some years, in 1985 I joined Franz Inc., a local software company, where I have worked ever since. I became interested in plants as an adult and learned about them from Glenn Keator, taking courses at the California Academy of Sciences. I joined CNPS in the 90s, and soon started giving field trips for the chapter. I have been assistant editor of the *Bay Leaf* for some years and treasurer of the Chapter since 2010. I live in Oakland.



David Margolies.



Antelope Valley

Photo by Bennett Stowe

CONSERVATION ANALYST FUND

2014 Conservation Analyst Fund Needs \$12,600 to meet our Goal

The Conservation Analyst Fund supports the East Bay Chapter's half-time Conservation Analyst, Mack Casterman. We depend on chapter members and friends to provide the \$40,000 needed for his support in 2014. Along with the Conservation Committee, Mack is working on many fronts to conserve high value native plant habitats in our two counties. Refer to ebcnps.wordpress.com for more specific information on conservation actions.

Please contribute as generously as you can. Donations may be made using PayPal on the East Bay Chapter website or send a check to the Chapter's address (P.O. Box 5597, Elmwood Station, Berkeley, CA 94705). Please write "Conservation Analyst Fund" in the memo. All contributions are tax deductible. Thank you!

We would like to thank the following generous donors for their contributions to the 2014 Conservation Analyst Fund.

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 Cecile Weaver
 Roy and Carolyn West
 Karen Wetherell
 Shirley White
 Susan Wickham
 Joe Willingham
 Tina Wistrom
 Elaine Worthington-Jackson
 Robert Zorzynski

NATIVE HERE REPORT

Thank you to everyone who came out for our Basic Propagation Workshop Meetup. It was a blast and we will be hosting more events like this after the holiday season. If you are not yet a member of EBCNPS Meetup we encourage you to join and keep abreast of hikes and special activities.

December Grass Special! Mention this *Bay Leaf* special and come receive two-for-one on grasses at the nursery for the

FAREWELL FROM MARGOT

December is my last month working at Native Here Nursery. Thank you to all our customers and volunteers I've met and worked with over my 13 plus years volunteering and working at Native Here. I've learned a lot from all of you. I have always been amazed at the plant diversity just within our two-county area. Learning about plants I had not known about before and learning new things about familiar plants has been rewarding.

And thank you, Charli and John, the mother and father of Native Here. Their dedication has kept the nursery going for 20 years. Charli had a unique and revolutionary idea for organizing plants based on where their seed was collected. Her strong will and vision has made Native Here Nursery a quiet mover in the trend toward sourcing and buying locally for a long time. People demand locally grown food nowadays. Well, Native Here has been growing and selling local native plants for 20 years. And other nurseries selling local native plants have sprung up in its wake.

In the beginning I was usually the only one at Native Here on Saturdays (this was before we had Saturday volunteers), and as we got more customers on that day, John started coming to help out. He became the infrastructure guy, building all of the plant cages, laying hoses and wood chips, putting together shade structures, building fences, and expanding the nursery until it was more than three times as big as it was when I started there.

I'm not leaving for good. I'll be working in my own garden and will relish my new role as a Native Here customer in the coming years. The nursery is in good hands with our new nursery manager, Theo.

Before I go, here are a few parting words about Native Here and frequent questions I've heard from customers over the years:

"Why are all your plants in cages?" The cages around many of our plants are built to keep out birds, mice, rabbits, and other critters who like to dig around in the pots or munch on the plants, often injuring or killing the plants. Feel free to pry open the tops to get plants.

month of December (limit 10 items). Hopefully the rains will be upon us by the time this *Bay Leaf* gets to you, and it will be a grand time to get the grass roots wet and established for the spring growing season.

Theo Fitinides

"I thought all native plants were drought tolerant." Many native habitats are moist or wet and the plants growing there require moisture. Creek monkeyflower (*Mimulus guttatus*), for example grows in seeps and along creeks. Many species of sedge (*Carex*) and rush (*Juncus*) grow along or near creeks, marshes, or springs.

We sell local natives from all types of habitats: chaparral, forest, creeks, lakes, marshes, prairie, savannah, etc.

"I'm looking for deer-resistant plants." Good luck. I don't try to point out plants that may be deer-resistant because deer will browse a variety of plants, sometimes nibbling ones that are on some deer-resistant plant lists. They change their diets from year to year. The best strategy is to protect the plants with cages or netting until the plants get large enough to withstand browsing. And realize that deer are part of the ecosystems around here.

"Why don't you have _____ plant that I saw in _____ book or on _____ website or _____ plant list from my gardener/landscape contractor?" Our mission is to propagate and sell plants local to the two-county East Bay area (Alameda and Contra Costa counties), which is the boundary for the East Bay Chapter of CNPS. We have organized our stock into geographic localities based on where we collected seeds and cuttings in the East Bay (we have collection permits). Plants do best when they are planted in areas close to where their parent seed or cuttings came from. This strategy preserves local genotypes of plants, keeping the diversity within species to a maximum so that they are able to adapt to diseases, pests, and other natural and human influences. Local natives also provide food, habitat, and shelter for the local animals who evolved with them.

California is a large state and has a huge diversity of native plant habitats. Your plant list of California native plants may include plants from coastal southern California, the Sierra Nevada mountains, or northern California forests that do not grow in the East Bay. For comparison, imagine a list of plants native from New York to Georgia along the East Coast of the U.S.

Try this exercise next time you visit Native Here. Leave your books and plant lists at home. Come with an open mind and go to the section of the nursery where you live. If you live, for example, in El Cerrito, go to our El Cerrito section. See what plants we have there, reading the plant cards as you browse. Then go to neighboring sections to see how the selection changes or stays the same. As you go from bayside sections to inland areas, you'll see some different plants. Also, many species grow in all areas, but often look slightly different from region to region. You'll gain an appreciation for what grows in your area. I do this exercise every time I'm at the nursery, and after 13 years I have learned a lot.

To me, planting local natives is like historic preservation of buildings or fine works of art. I like to think about what used to grow in my area and try to bring back those plants. You can research what used to grow in your area by visiting parks and vacant lots nearby and looking for vestige populations of natives (although beware, many parks have natives that have been planted recently). Books with historical photos can be useful. The diaries and accounts from early European explorers are another source of information on what used to grow in areas of the East Bay. *Fremontia* has had articles over the years on what plants grew in California landscapes in the past. And just talking to knowledgeable people in native plants circles yields interesting tidbits of information as well.

"Why don't you have _____ plant right now? I drove many miles or took off work just to get _____ plant?" We are not trying to be the Home Depot or Con-Agra of native plants. Just like the locavore food movement that emphasizes eating what is in season, we collect seed and cuttings we find growing that year (with permits) and propagate them as best we know how. Some years certain plants don't produce much seed. Annuals, especially, vary from year to year in their num-

bers, with some not emerging at all in certain years. And then we have variations in propagation success. Some years seeds produce many plants. Other years certain seeds don't emerge well or get eaten by critters or killed by disease.

We usually have other similar plants that would be happy in your garden, so if you can cultivate a flexible attitude you may find something else with unexpected beauty.

"When is your plant sale?" We are open for plant sales all year round. The annual Chapter plant sale has been supplanted by our Native Plant Fair in October, during which we sell not only local native plants, but host artists selling plant- or garden-themed wares and have talks about native plant-related issues.

The Regional Parks Botanic Garden just down the hill from Native Here has a plant sale every April around the 15th. They sell plants native to the entire state of California.

"This _____ plant looks like a weed. I'd like something more showy." Since we collect from wild stock and don't do any hybridizing or other selection the plants you see are the plants you would see in the wild. The advantages of plants from wild stock are that they are hardier and they are more adapted to the local climates, geology, and pollinators. Some flowers may look unspectacular to human eyes, but are perfect for pollinators. Native plants are more than pretty additions to your garden—they are the beautiful result of thousands of years of evolution with pollinators and other creatures and with their environment and they are collaborators in the current biological processes occurring today.

Margot Cunningham

PLANT FAIR 2014

Following a successful 2013 Plant Fair, it is not too soon to start planning for October, 2014!

While several of the "leads" for various aspects of the Fair are willing to continue on the Plant Fair planning committee, there is room for new participants and new ideas. Members are encouraged to become part of this vibrant team.

Typically the committee meets several times throughout the year, but also communicates via e-mail and phone calls. For more information about the various committee positions, or to volunteer, contact Steve Toby, stevetoby@comcast.net.

Briefly, the Plant Fair Chair prepares the work plan, coordinates activities, chairs the meetings, and keeps things moving along. The volunteer coordinator assigns volunteers to tasks and shifts that best suit them. The membership coordinator makes sure that CNPS membership materials are available and that new memberships and renewals are collected at the Fair. The vendor coordinator recruits artists to exhibit and sell

from booths, helps them set up, and assures that the financial arrangements are understood. Chapter displays need to be coordinated and arranged. The holding area provides a place to check plants in until the customer is ready to pay for them. Tallying and loading provide transition to the payment point. Cashiers need to be trained and the books kept throughout the Fair. A parking and loading crew is essential to safe and smooth operation. In the past food has been provided for volunteers, but there is a possibility for food sales to take place, which a committee member would have to coordinate. Entertainment and special features require someone to manage these enhancements. Publicity involves not just media and in-house publicity but getting materials to other events. Information and plant expertise require a coordinator. Of course growing and grooming plants for sale at the Fair are important, but they are extensions of the ongoing activity at Native Here Nursery managed by Theo Fitanides.

Charli Danielsen

POINT ISABEL RESTORATION

Teaming up with new steward, Tyson S., the Pt. Isabel restoration team met on the first Saturday of November to eliminate weeds in his new section adjacent to an area that has been recently restored. The 19 energetic volunteers removed towering stands of radish and fennel as well as masses of oat grass and thistle. The team also dug out the last few bushes of valerian that were blocking a view of Hoffman Marsh and a huge patch of periwinkle (*Vinca major*) that we had been dreading tackling since the very beginning of the entire Pt. Isabel project. Surprisingly, the *Vinca major* came out easily and we realized that even though it had been present for years it had not been able to establish a strong root system because of the condition of the landscape whose rolling mounds conceal many large chunks of old concrete.

Three students joined us for their first experience at restoration work. Tom gave Emily (San Leandro High), Benny (San Francisco State), and Navjot (Contra Costa Community) a short tour of the site and explained our primary goal of habitat restoration before the students set to work enthusiastically digging out weeds and moving them trailside for later pickup. They told us how much fun they had (Emily loved the Pulaski) and how rewarding it feels to do something good

for the environment. Two volunteers spent the day clearing newly emerging weeds along the edges of the restored site. John has all but eliminated the bindweed and other weeds marsh side and has moved on to the emerging oxalis. Janet tackled the upper edge of the Bay Trail leaving her stretch free and clear of weeds.

We have set a new goal for ourselves. We plan to connect the current restoration area to the end of the trail at Central Avenue. When we accomplish that, the entire stretch will measure 1,876 feet or 1/3 mile. Ambitious? You bet! But now that we have recruited five stewards we're confident all of us can pull it off, especially if we can recruit another steward or three. Let us know if you're interested in making this piece of the Bay Trail one of the most habitat friendly in the entire EBRPD. Our current stewards are Brent, Chris, Peter, Tyson, and Rob (who already keeps the 1/3 mile free of trash for us). We would welcome your participation.

Jane and Tom Kelly

The picture below of the restoration crew was taken by Jane Kelly.



CONSERVATION ANALYST REPORT

Here is a review of the major long-term projects the Conservation Committee of the East Bay Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (EBCNPS) has been working on during the past year. EBCNPS plans to stay involved in these projects throughout the coming year.

Tesla Park

A major ongoing project is our effort to help protect “Tesla Park.” Tesla Park is our name for the “Alameda-Tesla” property that is currently owned by the Off Highway Motor Vehicle and Recreation Division of State Parks (OHMVR) in eastern Alameda County. This 3,400-acre parcel, which makes up a large section of our “Corral Hollow” Botanical Priority Protection Area (BPPA), is currently being considered for off road vehicle access as part of the new Carnegie State Vehicle Recreation Area (SVRA) General Plan. EBCNPS has submitted a letter to OHMVR as part of the Notice of Preparation for the General Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and will continue to provide comments regarding the importance of preserving this botanically and historically rich area for study and non-motorized recreation. We expect the EIR for this project to be released in the spring of 2014 and will have more to report at that time.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Fuels Management EIR

Over the summer, EBCNPS submitted comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for FEMA’s East Bay Hills fire risk reduction project.

The University of California, Berkeley (UCB), City of Oakland, and the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) are all responsible for management of forested public lands in the East Bay. These agencies have submitted grant applications for fire risk reduction projects to FEMA via the California Emergency Management Agency. In order to evaluate these applications, FEMA prepared a draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The draft EIS evaluates the potential environmental effects that could occur if these projects that are intended to reduce wildfire hazard and risk are implemented. For more information about this project, please visit FEMA’s project website: <http://ebheis.cdmims.com/Home.aspx>.

The draft EIS was the subject of much public debate regarding what constitutes proper wildland fuels management. In order to clarify our position, EBCNPS published a public response for this planning process on our conservation blog. It can be viewed here: <http://ebcnps.wordpress.com/2013/05/31/public-response-from-ebcnps-regarding-fema-fuels-management-eis/>

Our Chapter’s Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) comment letter can be viewed at this web address: <http://ebcnps.wordpress.com/2013/06/25/ebcnps-submits->

[comments-on-fema-2013-hazardous-fire-risk-reduction-environmental-impact-statement-for-the-east-bay-hills-of-california/](http://ebcnps.wordpress.com/2013/06/25/ebcnps-submits-comments-on-fema-2013-hazardous-fire-risk-reduction-environmental-impact-statement-for-the-east-bay-hills-of-california/)

We are looking forward to following this process and its accompanying projects in the coming months in the hope that the final plan will help keep residents of the Oakland Hills safe and increase native habitat values in our public lands.

LBNL/UC Berkeley New Campus at Richmond Field Station

Another ongoing project of the Conservation Committee is the LBNL/UC Berkeley proposed second campus at the Richmond Field Station. EBCNPS recently submitted a letter to the planners at LBNL and UC Berkeley regarding the Long Range Development Plan for the proposed “Richmond Bay Campus” that is to be built at the Richmond Field Station. Our letter was a collaborative process in which several Conservation Committee members have participated. It details EBCNPS’s vision for the site and the development. The intent of this letter was to get a strong statement on the record on how this project should be built in order to ensure the rare natural resources of the site remain intact and thriving. We also noted the shortcomings of the existing plan. We are hopeful that our comments will be considered as part of the planning process in order to create a plan for the Richmond Bay Campus that celebrates and protects the natural resources at the site. This vision statement highlights ways for UC Berkeley and LBNL to achieve their goals for the campus while at the same time conserving and featuring the precious natural resources of the site including the remnant coastal prairie grassland that makes the field station a critical piece of our Richmond Shoreline BPPA.

Knowland Park

Our Conservation Committee continues to work to protect Oakland’s Knowland Park and to inform the public about this wonderful wildland gem that is just minutes from downtown Oakland. In the past few months, we have worked closely with the Friends of Knowland Park to organize opportunities for the public to get involved protecting and enjoying the park. These activities include restoration events where volunteers remove trash and invasive weeds from areas of the park. The events provide the opportunity for Oakland residents to get out to Knowland Park and learn about the wonderful plants and animals that call it home while at the same time improving the habitat and ensuring it remains a wonderful place to visit in the future.

The threat of the Oakland Zoo expansion is still looming, and our coalition has continued to work to encourage the regulatory agencies to require that the Zoo consider alternatives to its current damaging expansion plan. In September, Knowland Park Coalition representatives delivered a change.org petition to regulators in Sacramento urging them to suspend the

permitting process for the Oakland Zoo's proposed expansion. If allowed to proceed the expansion would result in the fencing off of 57 acres of public land and the destruction of several acres of remnant native grassland and rare maritime chaparral. Our petition included over 2,100 signatures, along with several supporting documents. It was presented to five offices in and around Sacramento including the California Department of Parks & Recreation, the office of the California Assemblyman representing District 18, Rob Bonta, the office of California Senator Lori Hancock, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, and the office of the Director of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Our coalition group plans to present the same documents to Congresswoman Lee in her Oakland office soon. Many thanks to those of you who signed!

Our work is already starting to pay off in the form of increased public interest in the park and its natural resources. In November, *Bay Nature* published an article on the diversity of lichens that exist in the maritime chaparral at the park. You can check out that article at this link: <http://baynature.org/articles/looking-lichens-knowland-park/>

There is much being planned for our future actions to help save Knowland Park, so please stay tuned to <http://save-knowland.org> for the latest news and updates.

SR239 "TriLink" Highway

Since 2012, the Conservation Committee has been following and participating in a two year scoping study for a proposed roadway between Tracy and Brentwood. This roadway is being dubbed "TriLink" or State Route 239, and it is being considered due to a \$14 million federal earmark grant to study

the feasibility of such a project. As part of our participation as a member of the NGO stakeholders study group, EBCNPS has submitted comments regarding the rare and unique natural resources that could be impacted by the proposed roadway, and we have provided the planners with our BPPA files so that they may consider our BPPAs as planning proceeds for potential roadway alignments. The study area for this roadway includes sections of our Altamont and Byron BPPAs.

On September 12th, the Draft Feasibility Study was released for public review. EBCNPS reviewed the information presented and submitted a comment letter on November 1. Our letter notes specific species and communities in the study area that require avoidance in any construction plan, as well as the importance of considering regionally significant/locally rare plants during any pre-construction surveys and project design considerations. Links to the draft study and our comment letter can be viewed on the conservation blog: <http://ebcnps.wordpress.com>.

The Conservation Committee is always looking for new volunteers to get involved in our many projects. If you are interested in working with me on any of the projects that you have read about on our blog or in past Conservation Analyst Updates, please feel free to contact me by phone at 510-734-0335 or by email at conservation@ebcnps.org. And as always, for more detailed updates on all our conservation projects, please visit the Conservation Blog at: <http://ebcnps.wordpress.com>.

Mack Casterman

FIELD TRIP

Sunday, January 5, 2:00 pm, field trip to Huddart County Park to see fetid adder's tongue. Location: Huddart County Park, 1100 Kings Mountain Road, Woodside (San Mateo County).

Meet in the parking lot just past the pay station. David Margolies (510-393-1858, divaricatum@gmail.net) will lead a hike on the Crystal Springs Trail where fetid adder's tongue (*Scoliopus bigelovii*, Liliaceae) blooms in early January. (In most locations outside botanical gardens, it blooms in late January or early February.) This is a gentle trail, losing about 200 feet over about 1/2 mile to the creek. We will walk to the creek and then return the same way. It is unlikely that there will be any other flowers out this early, but the fetid adder's tongue's presence tells us that the new flower season has started. (Other

plants out of flower will also be identified.) The area is second growth redwood and mixed evergreen forest.

How to get there: Go to Woodside: cross the Bay Bridge, get on I-280 south and take it to the 84 west/Woodside Road exit. Go west through the town of Woodside. Soon after the main part of the town, take a right onto Kings Mountain Road. The park entrance is on the right after a few miles. Go past the pay station into the main parking lot. We will meet there. Note that you must pay the parking fee even if the station is not staffed (use the envelopes provided).

Note: There is poison oak in the park. Poison oak is dangerous even when it has no leaves. Stay on the trail. It will probably be muddy and may be raining. Be prepared. The walk will take place rain or shine.

RESTORATION

Saturday, December 7, 10 am and Saturday, January 4 at 10 am, Pt. Isabel in Eastshore State Park

Pt. Isabel at the end of Rydin Road just off the I-580 next to Hoffman Marsh. Contact e-mail: kyotousa@sbcglobal.net, cell: 510-684-6484.

Saturday, December 14, 9:30 am, Huckleberry Regional Park
Meet us at 9:30 am in the Huckleberry parking lot, which is the first right on Skyline north of the intersection of Snake and Skyline.

Sunday, December 15, 9:00 am, Sibley Regional Park
Meet at the main parking lot off Skyline, about 1/4 mile north of the Huckleberry parking lot. There will always be a group to attack the notorious wall of broom, but we sometimes form a smaller group to work on other areas too. If you plan to walk in from the Orinda side at the Old Tunnel Road staging area be sure to e-mail jmanley@ebparks.org or janetgawthrop47@gmail.com.

Sunday, December 8, 10:13, 10 am-noon, Fern Glade Stewardship and Woodland Understory Restoration. The Garber Park Stewards and Claremont Canyon Conservancy are excited to be partnering with Golden Hour Restoration Institute for several exciting workshops throughout this winter season, beginning with a Fern Glade Stewardship and Woodland Understory Restoration Workshop in Garber Park on Sunday, December 8. There is a large relatively flat spot below Fireplace Plaza along Sylvan Path where the ivy has not yet totally engulfed the native ferns. It will become our new restoration site.

Lech Naumovich, Executive Director of Golden Hour, will be leading the workshop, and will discuss *Best Practices for Ivy Removal*, including the Bradley Method. We will remove ivy from the project site, find and flag any new natives we find in the area, track these through the year, and create a

small woodland habitat pile using existing, on-site materials. And, most exciting of all, Lech has said this will be a great workshop for another time lapse Video. To view this video of two days of planting on the hillside at the Evergreen Lane Entrance compressed into 3 minutes and set to the music of Louis Armstrong, go to *A Restoration Workshop that Deserves Celebrating* at <http://goldenhour.org/?p=472>.

Wear long sleeves, long pants and shoes or boots with good traction as the trails are rugged and the hillsides are steep in Garber. We provide water, snacks, tools, and gloves, but please bring your own water bottle for refills.

Location: Evergreen Lane Entrance to Garber Park (near the Claremont Hotel in Claremont Canyon). Directions: The nearest address is 144 Evergreen Lane, Berkeley. From Alvarado Road take Slater Lane, then turn Right onto Evergreen Lane. The entrance to the park is at the end of the street. A map and Google directions can be found at www.garberparkstewards.org.

RSVP to Shelagh at garberparkstewards@gmail.com or 510-540-1918 as the workshop may be limited to reduce impact in this restoration area.

Saturday, January 18, 10 am-1:00 pm, Woodland Slope Restoration in Garber Park, Day 1. Join Lech Naumovich, Executive Director of Golden Hour, as he guides us in removing invasive weeds and bioengineering an eroding slope with on-site materials, followed by restoring desirable plants on **Day 2, Saturday, February 15, 10 am-1:00 pm.**

Shelagh Brodersen
Volunteer Coordinator, Garber Park Stewards
Email: garberparkstewards@gmail.com
Tel: 510-540-1918
Blog: www.garberparkstewards.org



Janet Gawthrop taking time off from Huckleberry restoration to lend a hand at Point Isabel (picture by Jane Kelly)

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